

WE CLAIM:-

1. A steering column assembly for a vehicle, including an upper column assembly, a lower column assembly and a central collapsible steering column passing through the upper and lower column assemblies; there being a central bearing comprising a cylindrical tube that surrounds said central collapsible steering column, that is slidably mounted in said upper column assembly and that rotatably supports said central collapsible steering column at its lower end.

2. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central bearing is of a plastics material.

3. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central bearing is a molded thermoplastics tube.

4. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central bearing is a molded glass fiber-filled thermoplastics tube.

5. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central bearing is a molded carbon-fiber-filled thermoplastics tube.

6. An assembly according to claim 1, and being rake adjustable.

7. An assembly according to claim 1, and being reach adjustable.